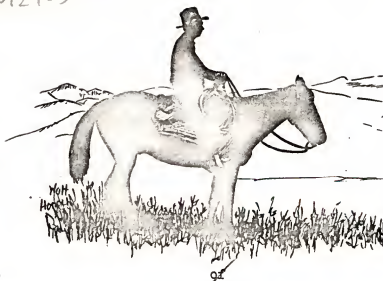


THE

RANGE

RIDER



THE

GRAZING

SERVICE

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THE RANGE RIDER SPEAKS:

Well, I got down from "Old Paint" to stretch my legs in the FR office a few days ago and saw a caustic remark in a letter on the editor's desk sayin' that the writer didn't see how the Grazing Service could "Go Forward in '40" with the kind of horse and rider depicted on the cover of "The Range Rider." Right away I spoke to the editor about it. She admitted that she didn't know much about horses but thought seniority ought to count for something. Well, "Paint" and I were about to pull out for the next issue when she said to me, she said, "You might just as well know the worst now. Read the suggestion that has just been received from the Idaho region." Folks, I was simply flabbergasted! Let me tell you what that region 5 had written:

Oh, Brother! The Horse You See Upon the Cover!

What is that on his extreme west end,
 A painter's brush or a river's bend!
 A cocklebur patch or a feather duster
 Cut by a lazy bronco buster?

We know it's easy to sit on the fence
 And give advice not worth five cents,
 But we make this suggestion for future use:
 Either "thin" his tail or turn him loose!

Darn, if it doesn't look like a fellow can't even relax a little in a field of sage these days! We stand accused, "Old Paint" and I, and we hear that "charges are being preferred against us" - whatever that means! Walt, Carter, Floyd, drafting offices everywhere - won't somebody give me a helping hand?

Signed - The Range Rider.

STATION GRS

We learn from the Colorado region that arrangements have been made with Station KFXJ to broadcast the transcribed record of "What Price America?" featuring the Taylor Grazing Act and the Grazing Service, on January 14, from 3:15 to 3:45 p. m. It is good to know that one region has been able to arrange for the stockmen and other interested parties to hear this splendid program. Perhaps other regions have arranged similar programs. We would like to hear about them.

* * R R * *

ORGANIZATION IN SAFETY

(Note: One of the entries in the recent safety contest to receive honorable mention came from Venator, Oregon, but was unsigned. This entry is quoted below. We hope the author will recognize his contribution and let us know his name so that acknowledgment can be made in a later issue.)

The best "safety assistant" any camp superintendent can have is the united determination of every man in the company to join in a concerted crusade against the invader, Old Demon Accident!

Institute interesting instructions before mass meetings of all enrollees on accident prevention, and explain that mutuality of purpose exists in the development of effective safety measures, that safety is largely a personal element.

Organize an enrollee self-governing system that will stimulate, radiate, and denote self-dependency, self-respect, personal confidence, and pride in self-efficiency and accomplishment.

Formulate concerted instructive job training features and make effective advancement of all worthy enrolled personnel.

Reflect, by example and personal contact, elements of leadership, outline a perspective vision, and aim for perfection in all things.

Promote united resolutions to make the camp the outstanding one in the entire region and country and to be content only with the top record in safety and efficiency, educational achievements, athletic teams, personal conduct and appearance.

Cultivate acquaintanceships and personal friendships.

Encourage, by laudible and legitimate methods, loyalty, respect for higher authority, and strict obedience to orders.

Accidents and property damage will materially decrease when concerted interest and action are made to function properly.

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UNDER SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR APPOINTED

The appointment of Mr. Alvin J. Wirtz as Under Secretary of the Interior, to succeed the Honorable Harry Slattery, has been announced. Mr. Wirtz is a lawyer by profession, and comes from the State of Texas.

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We see by the paper that Regional Grazier Dierking, New Mexico, has been elected vice-president of the Federal Business Association for 1940. Congratulations, Bud!

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LIVESTOCK BECOMING BETTER AND HEALTHIER

(From the "Pacific Stockman", December 26, 1939)

In a report to the Secretary of Agriculture recently on progress in livestock research and the control and eradication of livestock diseases for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1939, Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, calls attention to the near eradication of two diseases, namely, bovine tuberculosis and tick fever. He points out that tuberculosis among cattle has been practically eradicated from 47 States and that the work is nearing the same goal in California, the forty-eighth. Tick fever of cattle is now confined to only limited areas in southern Florida and southwestern Texas, now aggregating less than one percent of the area formerly infested with cattle ticks.

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CORRECTION

"Herb" Frenzell reluctantly returned from that southern cruise last week and told us that he went to Florida, Havana and the Bahama Islands - not Bermuda. (We were a little mixed on geography!) Herb has been asked if he made the trip to look over the grazing situation in the islands but, unless grass skirts come under that designation, we question the higher motive!

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VISITORS

Mr. John G. Magee, Foreman G-39, Tularosa, New Mexico, called at the office last week. Mr. Magee is one of the few people who call Washington, D. C. "home" and he is back here on a visit. We were mighty glad to hear, from him, about the successful smokers held at the Tularosa camp and would like to know more about them.

Mr. "Dick" Millen of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Salt Lake City, called at the office several times recently while in Washington on business. He took time for a little visit with some of the Salt Lakers on the Washington staff.

From the "hills of old Wyoming" comes Mr. Charles J. Belden of Pitchfork to pay us a friendly call. To the few of you who may not be so informed, we say that Mr. Belden is the western "camera artist" who contributed some of the fine pictures used on the cover of recent issues of "The Grazing Bulletin."

Mr. Mont Saunderson and Mr. E. A. Starch were in the office a few days ago to discuss land-use problems of the northern plains. Mr. Saunderson is in charge of range economics for the Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station at Ogden, Utah and Mr. Starch is Coordinator of the Northern Great Plains, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Captain" Simons, Secretary of the El Paso, Texas Chamber of Commerce was also a recent office caller.

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NEEDLE POINT SPRING

First a thought, an idea — then a reality — and now, at last, a fully developed spring, with cold, clear water flowing into 180 feet of galvanized trough. Needle Point Spring is located in the southwestern part of Utah, eight miles south of the Burbank CCC camp (G-117) in Snake Valley.

At the time Needle Point was an idea in the evolutionary stage, ranchers looked at a mud bog and said, "It can't be developed." To ranchers this mud hole was nothing but a graveyard for cattle. Hundreds of cattle had tried to drink from this hole; many were caught and sucked into its oozy blackness. In the excavation of the spring, six feet down in the sticky black mud, the remains of some of these "poor critters" were found.

Some ranchers, knowing the great need for water in the locality, thought of developing this spring, but it took Uncle Sam's CCC boys, with enthusiasm and youthful vigor, to transform the thought into a reality. True, these boys were only amateurs, but with guidance and training in fundamentals of the project, they accomplished what local people had wished for but considered an impossibility.

In digging out the spring, numerous difficulties were encountered. Each day a new problem presented itself, and at times such great, unexpected obstacles appeared that failure seemed a certainty. However, with determination and unlimited energy, each problem was met, solved, and passed over. It was a difficult job, like most worth while accomplishments, but these boys were bent on accomplishing a credible project.

Now, ranchers never tire of feasting their eyes on the mud bog transformed into a spring enclosed in a galvanized caisson six feet in diameter and ten feet long. Each minute it yields from six to eight gallons of cold, pure water. The troughs hold approximately 2,000 gallons of water. About three

hours are required to fill the troughs. Along the side of the 180 feet of troughs, large cedar posts have been set five feet apart and braced across with 2 x 4's. The troughs have been placed on top of 2 x 6 timbers which have been bolted to the cedar posts. Gravel has been placed on both sides of the troughs to prevent the cattle from bogging down while approaching the spring to drink.

Maybe this spring does seem insignificant when compared to some of the wonders of the modern world, but it is a vital thing to stockmen in the vicinity. This project was started and completed by the Burbank Camp enrollees, with the aid of the Grazing Service and local advisory board. It is a real accomplishment and a source of satisfaction to the builders. To the hundreds of sheep and cattle that trail over these desert acres a source of water has been supplied.

The value of this undertaking to the livestock industry in the West is readily realized but at the same time, through efforts like these, the Grazing Service is helping to reclaim vast western desert areas which afford grazing, thus aiding the country as a whole in the production of wool, leather, and meat at costs less than would be possible in any other section of the United States.

To the West this spring is a "blessing" that will insure water for man, livestock, and wildlife of the range. To the Grazing Service and the Civilian Conservation Corps it means another step forward in the planned range improvement program.

-- Robert L. Elliott, Superintendent G-117

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Mr. C. K. Caron, Assistant Chief of Range Improvements will leave Washington on January 13 for a general inspection trip throughout Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Mr. Caron plans to spend approximately two weeks in each of the three regions.

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A BOUQUET OF ARTEMISIA FILIFOLIA (It just occurred to us that the Grazing Service isn't exactly the place for orchids!)

To the Idaho region for its initial step in the field of in-service news sheets with Volume 1, Number 1, of the "Gem State Ranger." That's a splendid beginning and we wish our Idaho friends pleasure and benefit by its continuance.

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The enrollees of G-2, Colorado have presented Congressman Edward T. Taylor with a fine gavel to add to his growing collection of gavels. In his letter of appreciation, Congressman Taylor stated, "I expect, some time before long, to dispose of these gavels in an historic museum in the State of Colorado where I feel quite sure they will make an interesting display."

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ALONG THE BEALE TRAIL

"What Man's folly has destroyed, Man, with Nature's help, may partially restore. Had Man not selfishly squandered the bounties provided by Nature - had he merely used them with normal care and foresight, he might have preserved the grass and water, retained the precious top soil, and prevented destructive erosion."

This is the message on conservation contained in a photographic account of wasted range land, based on the diary of Lieutenant Edward F. Beale, 1857, and presented in a pamphlet published by the Education Division, Office of Indian Affairs, entitled "Along the Beale Trail."

Lieutenant Beale was commissioned by the War Department to survey a wagon road from Fort Defiance, Arizona to the Colorado River. His party, using camels for the first time in the United States as beasts of burden, left San Antonio, Texas June 25, 1857; they drank from the waters of the Colorado River January 23, 1858. Eighty-one years later Navajo Service photographers followed the route of the trail-blazer, photographing identical areas between Grants, New Mexico and Flagstaff, Arizona which the Beale diary described as lush with vegetation, where clear, narrow streams abounded with fish, and grass was "belly high to the mules." The pictures tell a story of wasted range land, soil erosion, and Nature thrown out of balance by Man's wanton misuse of her resources.

Everyone interested in the Grazing Service program should study this pamphlet. A few copies are being made available to regional offices.

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SO THIS IS WASHINGTON!

South Interior

Back in the early spring months of 1936, "Eck" Stablein's best pair of chaps, sombrero, and boots made a trip to Washington to help dedicate a magnificent new structure known as the South Interior Building.

Constructed of granite and cut limestone and dedicated to Conservation, the South Interior Building combines practical simplicity and utility with monumental dignity and beauty. It is 7 floors in height, is 575 feet long by 383 feet wide. From a central corridor two blocks in length, six wings extend on either side - every room thus is an outside room with plenty of light and air. Twenty high-speed elevators and two escalators operating from the basement to the second floor provide efficient and adequate traffic between floors. The net usable area in the building is approximately 700,000 square feet; the gross area is 1,050,000 square feet.

Approximately 5,000 employees report each morning for work in the General Land Office, Office of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, or other of the many bureaus of the Interior Department which occupy space in the building.

On the sixth floor, 4th wing, room 6415, you'll find a bit of western hospitality. Have a chair and rest a moment, won't you? Director Rutledge of the Grazing Service will see you in a moment!

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